

TOWN OF EAGLE LAKE PATROL MONTHLY REPORT

April 2009 – May 18, 2009

To: Supervisor Don Malek

Town Boat: On Monday, April 27, 2009, the “like new” town boat was launched with the much appreciated help of Tom Day. The maiden voyage was done to test the handling and operation of the boat along with the dependability of the radio/dispatch, emergency lights and all required equipment. All systems are go and thanks again to the town board for approving this purchase.

Opening Weekend: Saturday, May 2nd & 3rd, 2009: Despite a North wind with gusts of 20/25 mph, several fishing boats launched along with the usual armada of non-motorized crafts, (kayaks and canoes). Boat traffic over the weekend resulted in 7 generally light warnings issued for minor boating violations. These lake residents requested boat safety checks, which are always given as a courtesy.

Generalities: The boat audit was done on February 19, 2009. Warden Plenke was very pleased with the variety of citations written, from moving violations to registration. The total patrol hours per citation averaged to 6.9 hours, with 16 being the maximum, making our patrol one of the most efficient in the state. The percentage of return is not known at the time of the audit.

The regulation markers (buoys) are in place and properly located.

As of December 31, 2008, Waukesha County has more boat registrations than any other County in Wisconsin, 37,230. This does not include non-motorized craft which make up much of the boat traffic on Eagle Spring Lake. Kayaks accounted for 2 of the 3 boating fatalities this spring. In two of the fatalities victims were not wearing safety apparel. One drowning did occur on Eagle Lake in Racine County. The position of the Town Patrol is to strictly enforce all PFD (Personal Floatation Devices) violations.

So far the month of May has not been weather friendly for most boating activities. The Town Patrol operates on “smart time” patrol which increases as weather warms and boat traffic increases. This is in keeping with town budget concerns. Weather permitting Sgt. Dennis Nork has patrol shifts scheduled for the coming 3 day Memorial Day weekend.

Respectfully Submitted,

P.O. Charlie Braeger
of Eagle Lake Patrol